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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 24, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 18 totaled 336,454, up 3.0 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 2.8 percent above the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 7.0 percent in the East but down 1.6 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, coal loadings were up 6,531 cars (5.5 percent), and loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up 2,836 cars (14.7 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 7 weeks of 1989 totaled 2,301,189, up 1.6 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 118,281 trailers and/or containers for the week ended February 18, up 8.3 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 7 weeks of 1989 was 765,912 trailers and/or containers, up 1.5 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended February 18 totaled 19.6 billion, 3.7 percent above the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 7 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 133.7 billion ton-miles, up 2.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 18, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 18, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	32,691	32,695	.0 %	26,827	21.9 %
Farm Products, Ex Grain	1,631	2,568	-36.5	1,657	-1.6
Metallic Ores	12,499	11,911	4.9	12,718	-1.7
Coal	124,362	117,831	5.5	115,624	7.6
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	12,000	12,338	-2.7	9,643	24.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,554	9,959	-4.1	8,932	7.0
Grain Mill Products	10,287	10,025	2.6	10,124	1.6
Food & Kindred Products	9,312	9,281	.3	8,485	9.7
Primary Forest Products	9,720	10,500	-7.4	8,446	15.1
Lumber & Wood Products	6,782	7,639	-11.2	6,004	13.0
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,811	11,313	-4.4	10,448	3.5
Chemicals	28,293	25,658	10.3	26,076	8.5
Petroleum Products	5,007	4,588	9.1	4,438	12.8
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,490	9,051	4.9	8,632	9.9
Coke	5,352	5,827	-8.2	5,553	-3.6
Metals & Products	9,551	10,279	-7.1	9,129	4.6
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	22,113	19,277	14.7	20,970	5.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,621	9,404	2.3	8,912	8.0
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	8	29	-72.4	5	60.0
All Other Carloads	7,370	6,460	14.1	24,658	-70.1
Total	**336,454**	**326,633**	**3.0 %**	**327,281**	**2.8 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 18, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 7 WEEKS ENDING FEBRUARY 18, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**336,454**	**326,633**	**3.0 %**	**2,301,189**	**2,265,009**	**1.6 %**
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	68,748	67,621	1.7	453,926	469,468	-3.3
Containers	49,533	41,634	19.0	311,986	285,267	9.4
Total	**118,281**	**109,255**	**8.3**	**765,912**	**754,735**	**1.5**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.6**	**18.9**	**3.7 %**	**133.7**	**130.9**	**2.1 %**

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